H'EL ON EARTH
DC COMICS™
14
SUPERGIRL®
THE NEW 52!
IS SHE SUPERBOY'S SALVATION...
MIKE JOHNSON
MAHMUD ASRAR
M.A. ASRAR
...OR DESTRUCTION?
RATED T TEEN
JAN 2013
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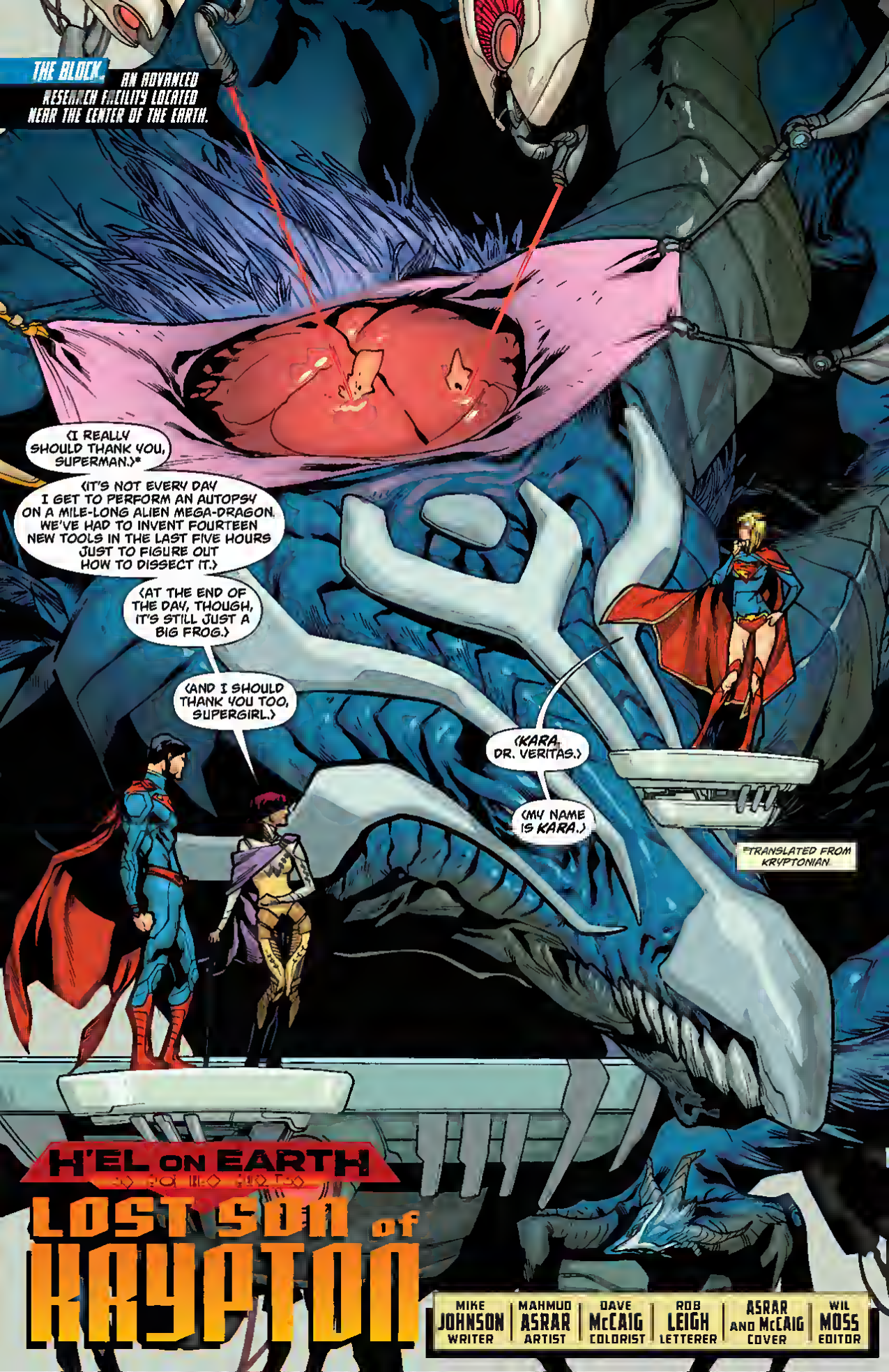
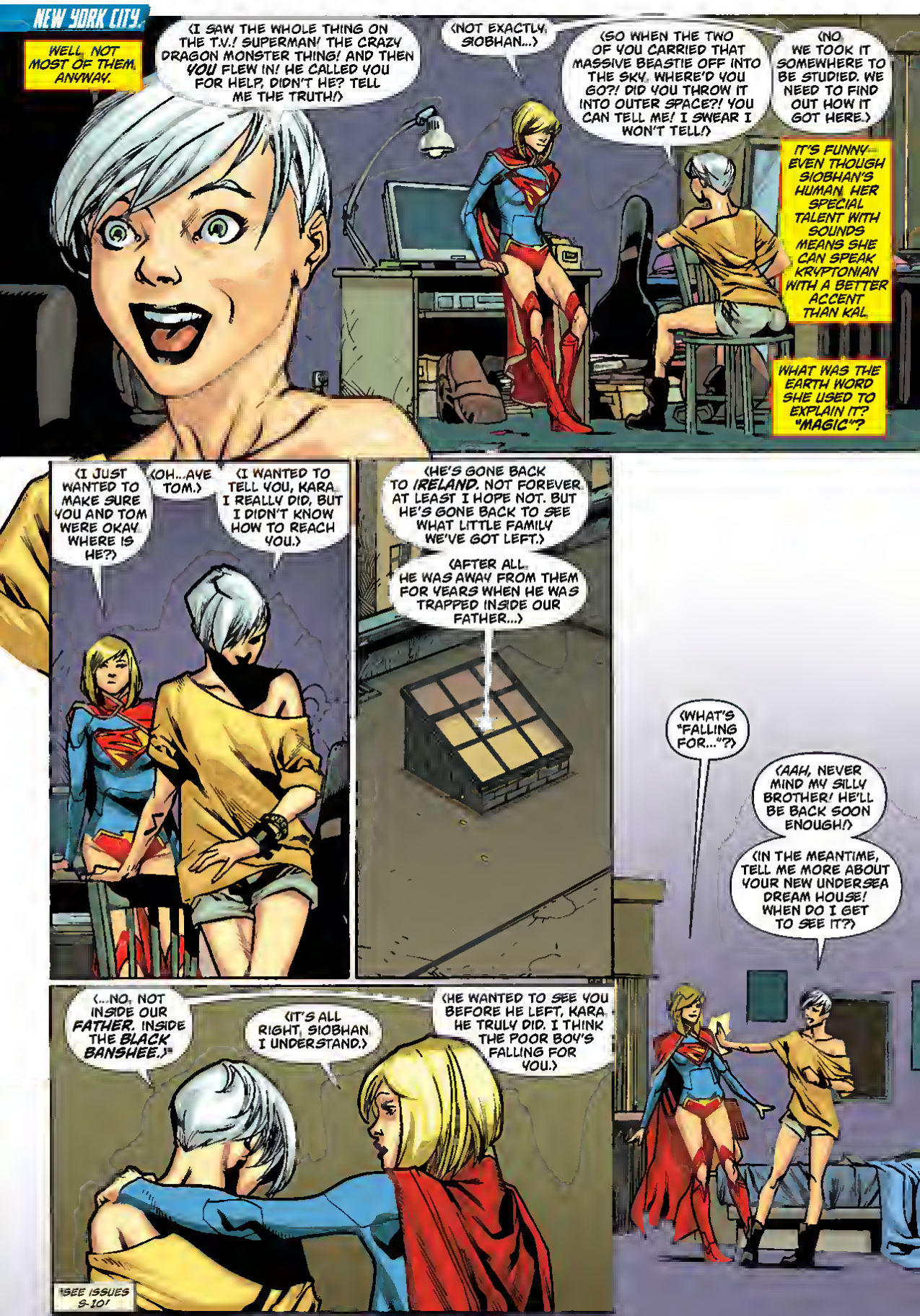
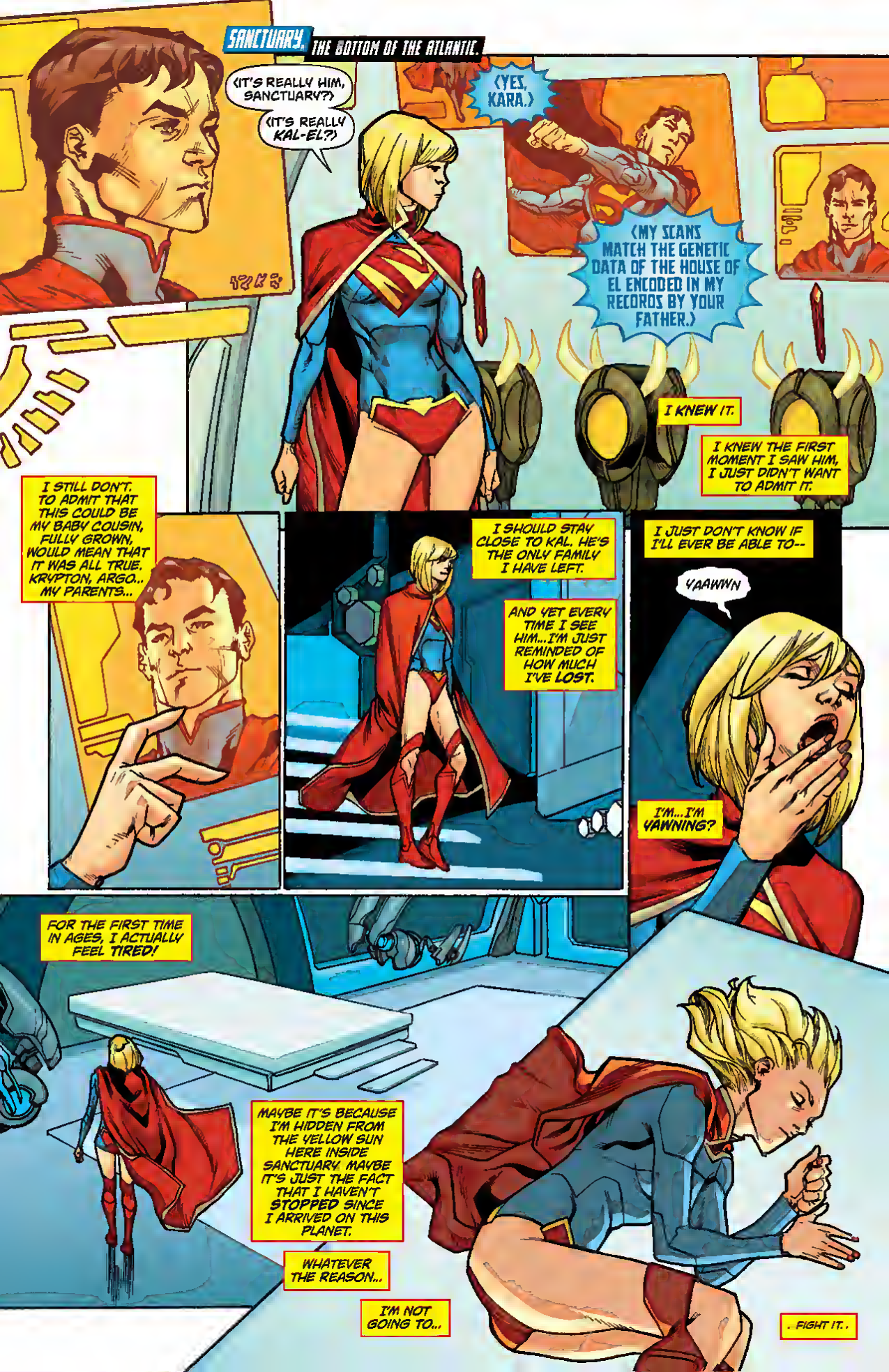

THE BLOCK. AN ADVANCED RESEARCH FACILITY LOCATED NEAR THE CENTER OF THE EARTH.
(I REALLY SHOULD THANK YOU, SUPERMAN.)*
(IT'S NOT EVERY DAY I GET TO PERFORM AN AUTOPSY ON A MILE-LONG ALIEN MEGA-DRAGON. WE'VE HAD TO INVENT FOURTEEN NEW TOOLS IN THE LAST FIVE HOURS JUST TO FIGURE OUT HOW TO DISSECT IT.)
(AT THE END OF THE DAY, THOUGH, IT'S STILL JUST A BIG FROG.)
(AND I SHOULD THANK YOU TOO, SUPERGIRL.)
(KARA. DR. VERITAS.)
(MY NAME IS KARA.)
*TRANSLATED FROM KRYPTONIAN.
H'EL ON EARTH
LOST SON of KRYPTON
MIKE JOHNSON WRITER
MAHMUD ASRAR ARTIST
DAVE McCAIG COLORIST
ROB LEIGH LETTERER
ASRAR AND McCAIG COVER
WIL MOSS EDITOR

(MY APOLOGIES, KARA.)
(THANKS FOR HELPING YOUR COUSIN BRING THIS THING HERE.)*
(YOU'VE BROUGHT US A GOLDMINE. AND NOT JUST BECAUSE OF THE PATENTS FOR NEW TOOLS WE NEED. STUDYING OUR NEW FRIEND HERE WILL ADVANCE THE STUDY OF XENOBIOLOGY A BILLIONFOLD.)
(AS INTERESTING AS I FIND YOUR PHYSIOLOGY, SUPERMAN, WELL...)
(LET'S JUST SAY THIS IS ANOTHER ORDER OF MAGNITUDE.)
IT'S SO STRANGE HEARING THIS HUMAN WOMAN SPEAK KRYPTONIAN.
KAL SAID HE'S BEEN TEACHING HER THE LANGUAGE. SHE HAS THE SAME ACCENT HE DOES. NOT THE ACCENT OF SOMEONE WHO'S LIVED ON KRYPTON NOT SOMEONE WHO WAS RAISED THERE
BUT KAL SAID SHE'S ONE OF THE SMARTEST PEOPLE ON THIS WORLD. AS SMART AS HIS FATHER.
AND MINE.
FATHER... I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE THAT HE USED ALL OF HIS GENIUS...
JUST TO SEND ME AWAY.**
(BUT THE FIRST AND BIGGEST QUESTION IS...)
(...HOW DID THIS THING GET TO EARTH?)
*WHERE THE EL DID THIS DRAGON COME FROM, YOU ASK? YOU DIDN'T MISS SUPERMAN #13, DID YOU?
**SEE THE REVELATIONS LAST ISSUE AND IN SUPERGIRL #0!
(THAT'S WHAT'S BOTHERING ME. WE KNOW KRYPTON WAS DESTROYED ALONG WITH EVERYTHING ON IT WHICH MEANS THIS THING MUST HAVE LEFT KRYPTON BEFORE THAT.)
(BUT HOW? WHY? AND DID SOMEONE ELSE SEND IT HERE?)
(MAYBE NOT EVERYTHING WAS DESTROYED WHEN KRYPTON DIED? IF THIS CREATURE SURVIVED...)
(...JUST LIKE YOU AND ME...)
(...MAYBE THERE ARE OTHER PEOPLE? MAYBE WE CAN FIND THEM!)
(KARA, I UNDERSTAND HOW MUCH YOU WANT THAT TO BE TRUE. BUT THIS CREATURE IS AN ANOMALY. PART OF IT WAS ALREADY DEAD WHEN IT ATTACKED.)
I'M SORRY, BUT IT IS NOT PROOF OF MORE KRYPTONIAN SURVIVORS.
(HOW DID I KNOW YOU'D SAY SOMETHING LIKE THAT?)
(YOU BELIEVE WHAT YOU WANT, KAL. I'LL DO THE SAME.)

(I SHOULD GET BACK TO METROPOLIS, DR. VERITAS. LET ME KNOW WHAT MORE YOU DISCOVER ABOUT THIS MONSTER.)
(I WILL.)
(HOLDING ON TO HOPE IS NEVER WRONG, KARA. BUT I DON'T WANT IT TO BE *FALSE* HOPE)
(YOU'RE WELCOME TO STAY HERE. LEARN WHAT YOU CAN.)
(REMEMBER, KARA, IF YOU NEED ANYTHING...)
(JUST CALL MY NAME AND I'LL HEAR YOU.)
(KARA? IF YOU DON'T MIND, I'D LOVE TO RUN SOME SCANS ON YOU TOO. I'VE ONLY HAD THE CHANCE TO STUDY A KRYPTONIAN *MALE*...)
SCANS? LIKE THE SCANS MY FATHER PERFORMED ON ME BEFORE HE SENT ME AWAY?
SCANS LIKE I'M SOMETHING TO BE POKED AND STUDIED? LIKE TYCHO DID WHEN HE CAPTURED ME?
(NO, DR. VERITAS, I'D RATHER NOT. I THINK YOU HAVE ENOUGH TO STUDY HERE.)
AND I DON'T REALLY TRUST HUMANS.


NEW YORK CITY.
WELL, NOT MOST OF THEM, ANYWAY.
(I SAW THE WHOLE THING ON THE T.V.! SUPERMAN! THE CRAZY DRAGON MONSTER THING! AND THEN YOU FLEW IN! HE CALLED YOU FOR HELP, DIDN'T HE? TELL ME THE TRUTH!)
(NOT EXACTLY, SIOBHAN...)
(SO WHEN THE TWO OF YOU CARRIED THAT MASSIVE BEASTIE OFF INTO THE SKY, WHERE'D YOU GO?! DID YOU THROW IT INTO OUTER SPACE?! YOU CAN TELL ME! I SWEAR I WON'T TELL!)
(NO, WE TOOK IT SOMEWHERE TO BE STUDIED. WE NEED TO FIND OUT HOW IT GOT HERE.)
IT'S FUNNY... EVEN THOUGH SIOBHAN'S HUMAN, HER SPECIAL TALENT WITH SOUNDS MEANS SHE CAN SPEAK KRYPTONIAN WITH A BETTER ACCENT THAN KAL.
WHAT WAS THE EARTH WORD SHE USED TO EXPLAIN IT? "MAGIC"?
(I JUST WANTED TO MAKE SURE YOU AND TOM WERE OKAY. WHERE IS HE?)
(OH...AYE TOM.)
(I WANTED TO TELL YOU, KARA. I REALLY DID, BUT I DIDN'T KNOW HOW TO REACH YOU.)
(HE'S GONE BACK TO IRELAND. NOT FOREVER, AT LEAST I HOPE NOT. BUT HE'S GONE BACK TO SEE WHAT LITTLE FAMILY WE'VE GOT LEFT.)
(AFTER ALL, HE WAS AWAY FROM THEM FOR YEARS WHEN HE WAS TRAPPED INSIDE OUR FATHER...)
(WHAT'S "FALLING FOR..."?)
(AAH, NEVER MIND MY SILLY BROTHER! HE'LL BE BACK SOON ENOUGH!)
(IN THE MEANTIME, TELL ME MORE ABOUT YOUR NEW UNDERSEA DREAM HOUSE! WHEN DO I GET TO SEE IT?)
(...NO, NOT INSIDE OUR FATHER. INSIDE THE BLACK BANSHEE.)"
(IT'S ALL RIGHT, SIOBHAN. I UNDERSTAND.)
(HE WANTED TO SEE YOU BEFORE HE LEFT, KARA. HE TRULY DID. I THINK THE POOR BOY'S FALLING FOR YOU.)
SEE ISSUES 5-10!

(AS SOON AS I CAN FIGURE OUT HOW TO GET YOU DOWN THERE SAFELY.)
(I'D BETTER BE GETTING BACK THERE NOW ACTUALLY. I MIGHT BE ABLE TO FIND OUT HOW THAT DRAGON CAME TO EARTH...AND IF MORE ARE COMING AFTER IT.)
(RIGHT THEN. TIME FOR ANOTHER QUICK EXIT. LAST TIME YOU TRIED TO WORK THE DOORKNOB YOU NEARLY PULLED THE WHOLE DOOR OFF, SO ALLOW ME.)
(LOOKS LIKE THE COAST IS CLEAR, SO...)
WHOOOOSH
(...GET...)
(...READY...)
I WISH I COULD DO THAT...
AND HERE I AM, ALL ALONE ONCE AGAIN.
WHICH IS FOR THE BEST, I SUPPOSE.
BECAUSE IT'S GETTING HARDER AND HARDER TO HOLD IT IN.
SOONER OR LATER...
...KARA'S GOING TO FIND OUT THE TRUTH!


SANCTUARY.
THE BOTTOM OF THE ATLANTIC.
(IT'S REALLY HIM, SANCTUARY?)
(IT'S REALLY KAL-EL?)
(YES, KARA.)
(MY SCANS MATCH THE GENETIC DATA OF THE HOUSE OF EL ENCODED IN MY RECORDS BY YOUR FATHER.)
I KNEW IT.
I KNEW THE FIRST MOMENT I SAW HIM, I JUST DIDN'T WANT TO ADMIT IT.
I STILL DON'T. TO ADMIT THAT THIS COULD BE MY BABY COUSIN, FULLY GROWN, WOULD MEAN THAT IT WAS ALL TRUE. KRYPTON, ARGO... MY PARENTS...
I SHOULD STAY CLOSE TO KAL. HE'S THE ONLY FAMILY I HAVE LEFT.
AND YET EVERY TIME I SEE HIM...I'M JUST REMINDED OF HOW MUCH I'VE LOST.
I JUST DON'T KNOW IF I'LL EVER BE ABLE TO--
YAAWWN
I'M...I'M YAWNING?
FOR THE FIRST TIME IN AGES, I ACTUALLY FEEL TIRED!
MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE I'M HIDDEN FROM THE YELLOW SUN HERE INSIDE SANCTUARY. MAYBE IT'S JUST THE FACT THAT I HAVEN'T STOPPED SINCE I ARRIVED ON THIS PLANET.
WHATEVER THE REASON...
I'M NOT GOING TO...
. FIGHT IT. .

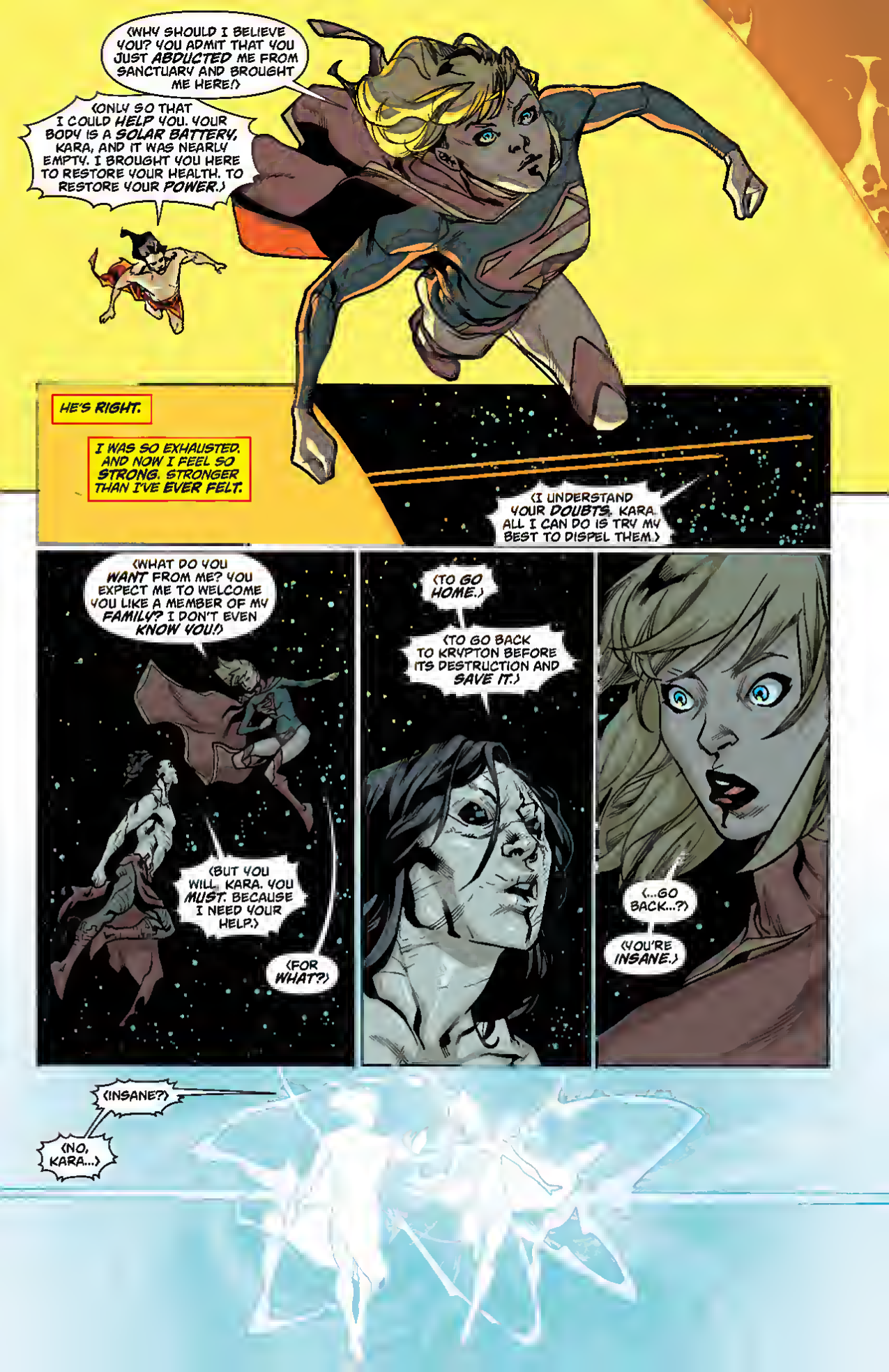
(KARA ZOR-EL.)
(WAKE NOW.)
WHO--?
WHERE AM I?!
HOW DID I--?!
DREAMING.
I'M DREAMING AGAIN. I'M BACK AT THE FIREFALLS ON KRYPTON...
(YOU'RE NOT DREAMING. THESE AREN'T THE FIREFALLS OF KRYPTON.)
(I DON'T HAVE TO READ YOUR MIND...)

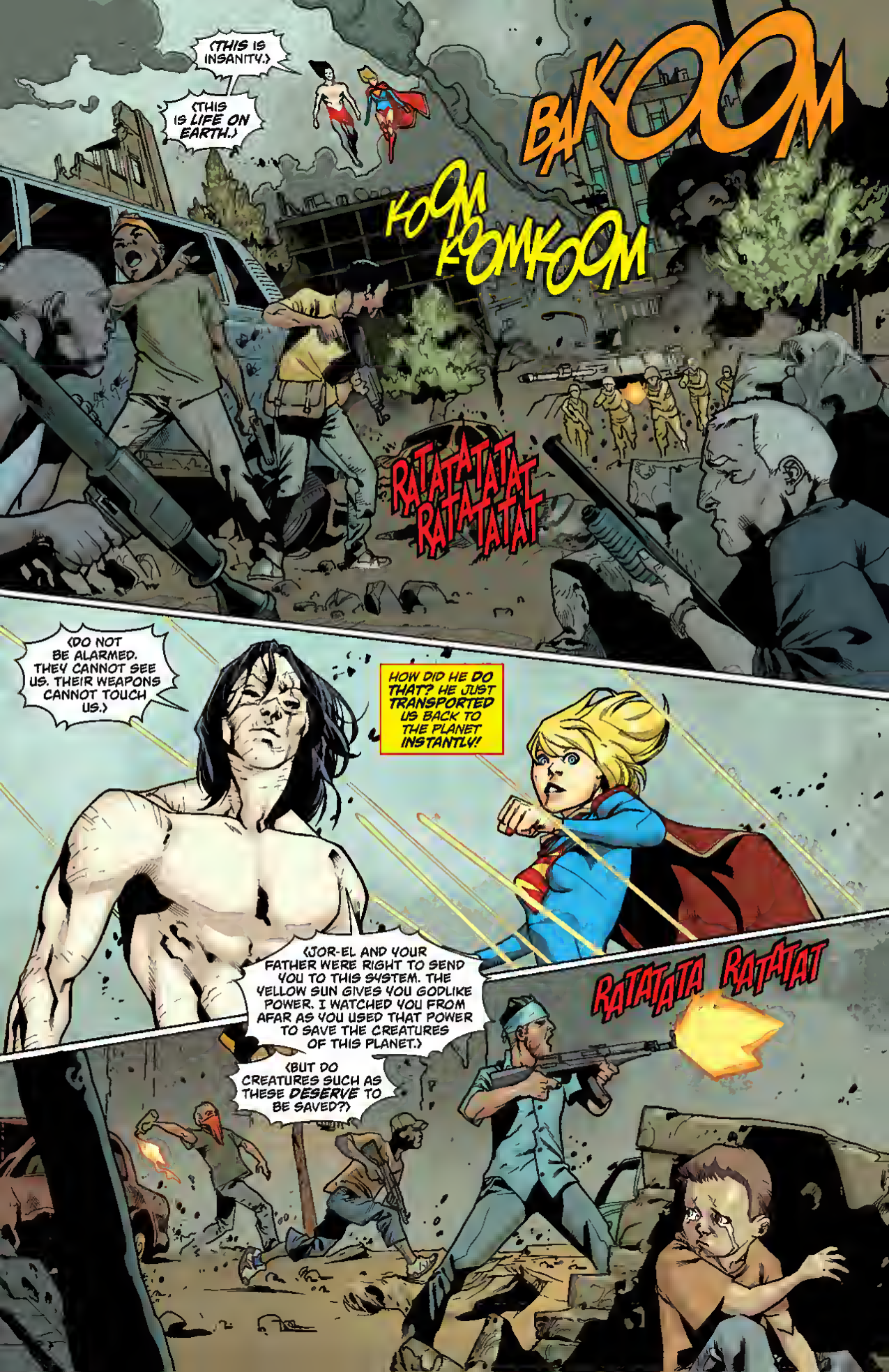
(...TO KNOW YOUR THOUGHTS, KARA ZOR-EL.)
(I AM H'EL.)
(AND LIKE YOU, I AM A LOST CHILD OF KRYPTON.)

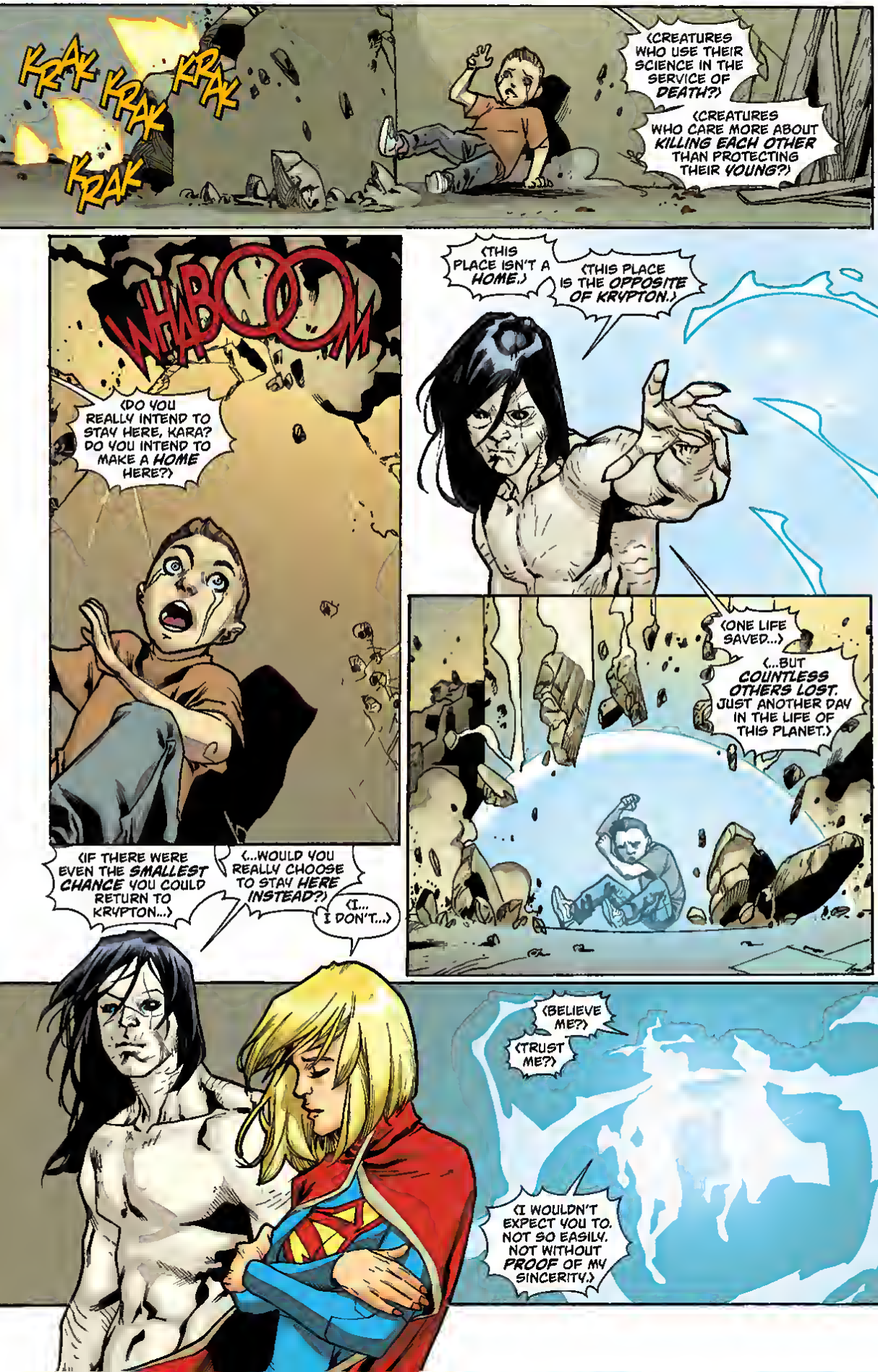
(WHO ARE YOU?! WHAT HAVE YOU DONE TO SANCTUARY?!)
(YOU HAVE NOTHING TO FEAR, I ASSURE YOU.)
(WHAT IS THIS, SOME KIND OF HOLO-PROGRAM?)
(SANCTUARY!)
(SANCTUARY, ANSWER ME...!)
(YOU DISABLED IT, DIDN'T YOU?!)
(WELL, WHOEVER YOU ARE, I'LL ONLY SAY THIS ONCE...)
(GET OUT!!!)
(WE ARE NOT IN YOUR SANCTUARY.)
(WE ARE ON THE SURFACE OF EARTH'S STAR.)
(IMPOSSIBLE!)
(I WARNED YOU! NOW FIX MY HOME OR I'LL--)

KABOOM
NNNGHH
I...
I...
I CAN'T FEEL MY HANDS!
(WH..)
(WHAT ARE YOU??)

(I AM A FRIEND, AND DESPITE MY APPEARANCE...)
(...I AM AS KRYPTONIAN AS YOU ARE.)
(MY UNUSUAL APPEARANCE IS EVIDENCE OF HOW LONG I HAVE BEEN TRAVELING...HOW FAR I HAVE COME.)
(BUT I ASSURE YOU, MY ALLEGIANCE IS TO THE HOUSE OF EL. I DO NOT SHARE THE BLOOD OF YOUR FAMILY...)
(...BUT MY DEVOTION TO IT IS AS STRONG AS YOURS.)
(EXPLAIN YOURSELF!)
(I AM AN EXPLORER, SENT ON A MISSION TO THE STARS BY YOUR UNCLE, JOR-EL. HE WAS MY TEACHER. MY MENTOR. AS MUCH A FATHER TO ME AS HE WAS TO HIS OWN SON.)
(JOR-EL SENT ME AWAY SHORTLY BEFORE KRYPTON'S DESTRUCTION, INSTRUCTING ME TO SAFEGUARD THE ACCUMULATED SCIENCE AND CULTURE OF OUR PLANET ABOARD MY SHIP.)
(I SPENT YEARS IN EXILE, A SOLITARY WANDERER. MY BODY BEARS WITNESS TO THE TRIALS I ENDURED. UNTIL THAT GLORIOUS DAY I DISCOVERED THAT OTHER KRYPTONIANS HAD SURVIVED--YOU AND YOUR COUSIN, KAL-EL.)
(FINALLY, THE LOST CHILDREN OF KRYPTON CAN BE TOGETHER.)

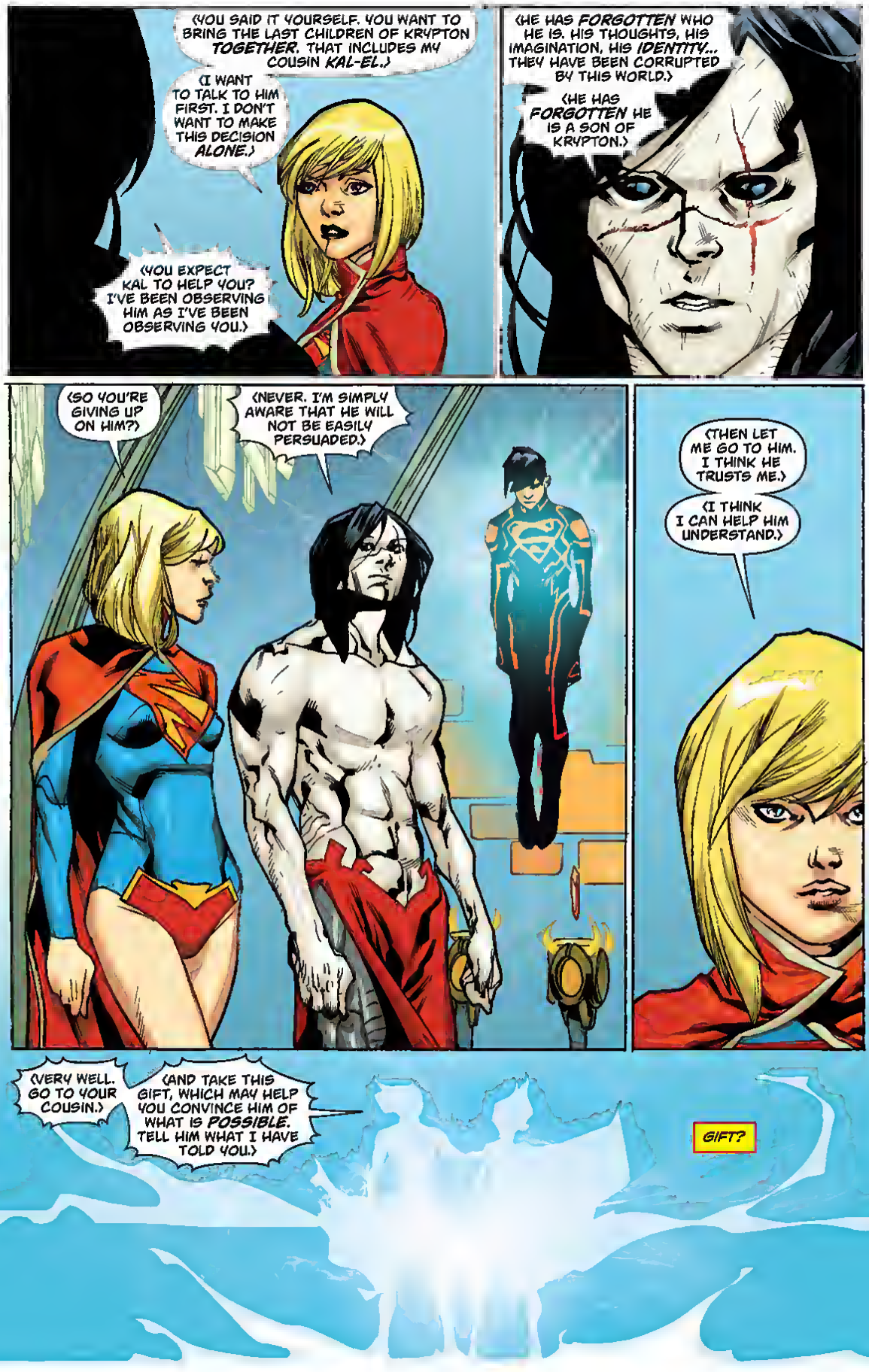

(WHY SHOULD I BELIEVE YOU? YOU ADMIT THAT YOU JUST ABDUCTED ME FROM SANCTUARY AND BROUGHT ME HERE!)
(ONLY SO THAT I COULD HELP YOU. YOUR BODY IS A SOLAR BATTERY, KARA, AND IT WAS NEARLY EMPTY. I BROUGHT YOU HERE TO RESTORE YOUR HEALTH. TO RESTORE YOUR POWER.)
HE'S RIGHT.
I WAS SO EXHAUSTED. AND NOW I FEEL SO STRONG. STRONGER THAN I'VE EVER FELT.
(I UNDERSTAND YOUR DOUBTS, KARA. ALL I CAN DO IS TRY MY BEST TO DISPEL THEM.)
(WHAT DO YOU WANT FROM ME? YOU EXPECT ME TO WELCOME YOU LIKE A MEMBER OF MY FAMILY? I DON'T EVEN KNOW YOU!)
(BUT YOU WILL, KARA. YOU MUST. BECAUSE I NEED YOUR HELP.)
(FOR WHAT?)
(TO GO HOME.)
(TO GO BACK TO KRYPTON BEFORE ITS DESTRUCTION AND SAVE IT.)
(...GO BACK...?)
(YOU'RE INSANE.)
(INSANE?)
(NO, KARA...)

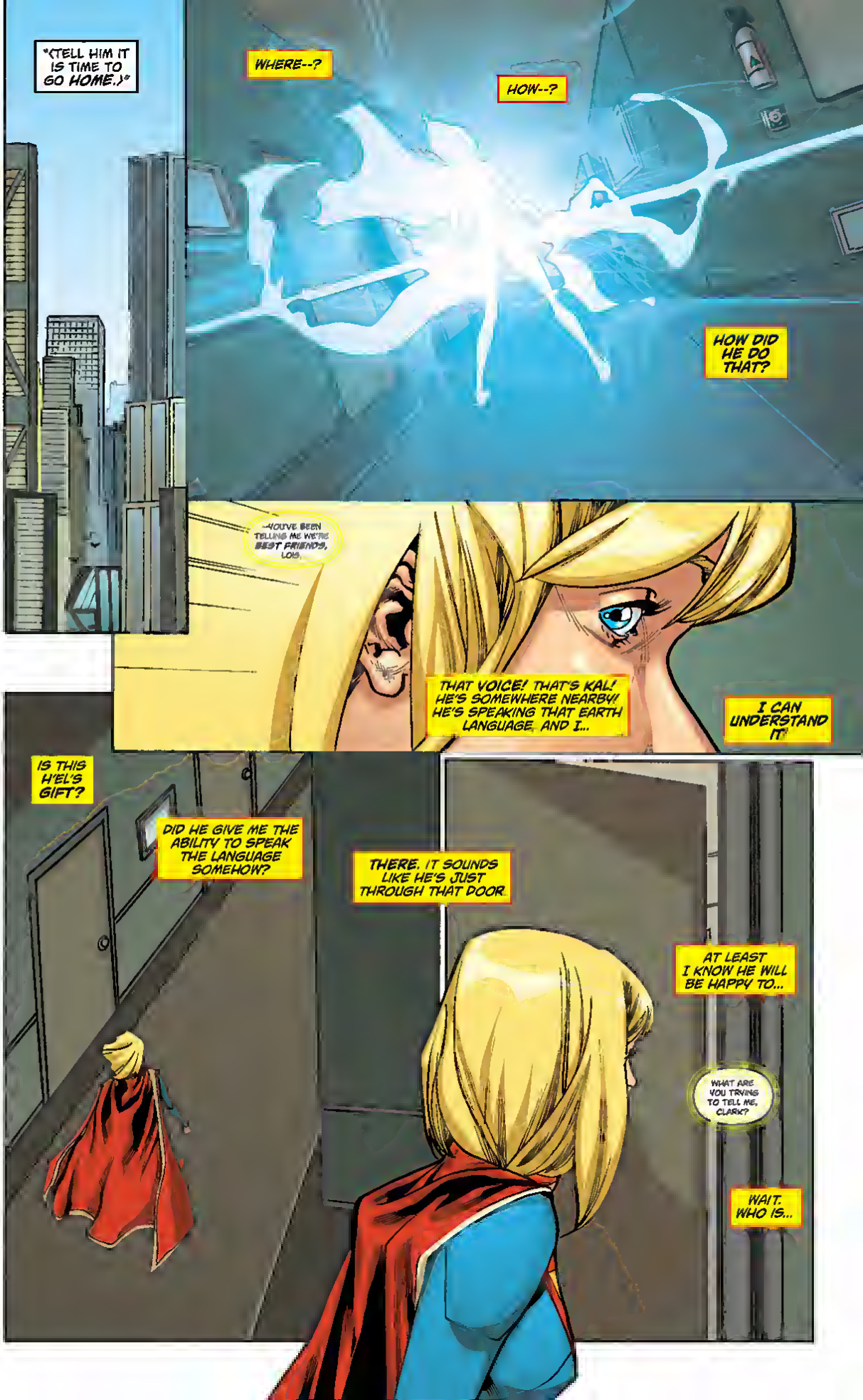

(THIS IS INSANITY.)
(THIS IS LIFE ON EARTH.)
BAKOOM
KOOM KOOMKOOM
RATATATATAT RATATATAT
(DO NOT BE ALARMED. THEY CANNOT SEE US. THEIR WEAPONS CANNOT TOUCH US.)
HOW DID HE DO THAT? HE JUST TRANSPORTED US BACK TO THE PLANET INSTANTLY!
(JOR-EL AND YOUR FATHER WERE RIGHT TO SEND YOU TO THIS SYSTEM. THE YELLOW SUN GIVES YOU GODLIKE POWER. I WATCHED YOU FROM AFAR AS YOU USED THAT POWER TO SAVE THE CREATURES OF THIS PLANET.)
(BUT DO CREATURES SUCH AS THESE DESERVE TO BE SAVED?)
RATATATA RATATAT


KRAK
KRAK
KRAK
KRAK
(CREATURES WHO USE THEIR SCIENCE IN THE SERVICE OF DEATH?)
(CREATURES WHO CARE MORE ABOUT KILLING EACH OTHER THAN PROTECTING THEIR YOUNG?)
WHABOOM
(DO YOU REALLY INTEND TO STAY HERE, KARA? DO YOU INTEND TO MAKE A HOME HERE?)
(THIS PLACE ISN'T A HOME.)
(THIS PLACE IS THE OPPOSITE OF KRYPTON.)
(ONE LIFE SAVED...)
(...BUT COUNTLESS OTHERS LOST. JUST ANOTHER DAY IN THE LIFE OF THIS PLANET.)
(IF THERE WERE EVEN THE SMALLEST CHANCE YOU COULD RETURN TO KRYPTON...)
(...WOULD YOU REALLY CHOOSE TO STAY HERE INSTEAD?)
(I... I DON'T...)
(BELIEVE ME?)
(TRUST ME?)
(I WOULDN'T EXPECT YOU TO. NOT SO EASILY. NOT WITHOUT PROOF OF MY SINCERITY.)

(AND SO PROOF I WILL GIVE YOU.)
(THE CLONE!)*
*BETTER KNOWN AS SUPERBOY!
(YOU BROUGHT IT HERE? INTO MY SANCTUARY?)
(IT IS NOT A THREAT. NOT FOR THE MOMENT. BUT YOU KNOW AS WELL AS I DO THE THREAT THAT CLONES POSE TO ALL LIVING THINGS. A THREAT THAT MUST BE ELIMINATED.)
(HERE IS THE PROOF OF MY SINCERITY, KARA. PROOF OF MY DEVOTION TO KRYPTON.)
(SAY THE WORD, AND I WILL ELIMINATE THIS ABOMINATION.)

(I...)
I KNOW HE SHOULD. I KNOW WHAT THE CLONE WILL DO IF IT'S LEFT ALIVE.
(I...)
(IF YOU TELL ME TO DO IT, I WON'T HESITATE.)
I BELIEVE HIM. I BELIEVE HE'LL REALLY DO IT.
(I KNOW IT LOOKS LIKE ONE OF US, KARA, BUT IT IS NOT. DO NOT LET YOUR INNATE COMPASSION CONFUSE YOU.)
(DO WHAT MUST BE--)
..WH..
..WHERE...?
(QUICKLY NOW, KARA. THE CLONE WAKES.)
HE REMEMBERED MY NAME.
AND I...
Y...YOU... I KNOW YOU...
...SUPERGIRL...
I JUST CALLED IT "HE."
(NO.)
(DON'T DO IT.)
(NOT YET.)
(NOT YET? VERY WELL. I WILL SIMPLY RENDER THE CLONE UNCONSCIOUS AGAIN.)
(BUT YOUR HESITATION IS CURIOUS.)


(YOU SAID IT YOURSELF. YOU WANT TO BRING THE LAST CHILDREN OF KRYPTON *TOGETHER*. THAT INCLUDES MY COUSIN *KAL-EL*.)
(I WANT TO TALK TO HIM FIRST. I DON'T WANT TO MAKE THIS DECISION *ALONE*.)
(YOU EXPECT KAL TO HELP YOU? I'VE BEEN OBSERVING HIM AS I'VE BEEN OBSERVING YOU.)
(HE HAS *FORGOTTEN* WHO HE IS. HIS THOUGHTS, HIS IMAGINATION, HIS *IDENTITY*... THEY HAVE BEEN CORRUPTED BY THIS WORLD.)
(HE HAS *FORGOTTEN* HE IS A SON OF KRYPTON.)
(SO YOU'RE GIVING UP ON HIM?)
(NEVER. I'M SIMPLY AWARE THAT HE WILL NOT BE EASILY PERSUADED.)
(THEN LET ME GO TO HIM. I THINK HE TRUSTS ME.)
(I THINK I CAN HELP HIM UNDERSTAND.)
(VERY WELL. GO TO YOUR COUSIN.)
(AND TAKE THIS GIFT, WHICH MAY HELP YOU CONVINCE HIM OF WHAT IS *POSSIBLE*. TELL HIM WHAT I HAVE TOLD YOU.)
GIFT?


"TELL HIM IT IS TIME TO GO HOME."
WHERE--?
HOW--?
HOW DID HE DO THAT?
--YOU'VE BEEN TELLING ME WE'RE BEST FRIENDS, LOIS.
THAT VOICE! THAT'S KAL! HE'S SOMEWHERE NEARBY! HE'S SPEAKING THAT EARTH LANGUAGE, AND I...
I CAN UNDERSTAND IT!
IS THIS H'EL'S GIFT?
DID HE GIVE ME THE ABILITY TO SPEAK THE LANGUAGE SOMEHOW?
THERE. IT SOUNDS LIKE HE'S JUST THROUGH THAT DOOR.
AT LEAST I KNOW HE WILL BE HAPPY TO...
WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO TELL ME, CLARK?
WAIT. WHO IS...

"CLARK"?
WHOA.
?!
THIS AWKWARD MOMENT TO BE CONTINUED...IN
SUPERMAN #14!

ZONE